

Great Lakes Regional MATE ROV Competition 2014

Exploring the Great Lakes:

Shipwrecks, Sinkholes, and Conservation in the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary

FAQs

When is the Competition: Saturday, May 17, 2014

What class do we enter?

SCOUT CLASS (most appropriate for upper elementary schools with robotics experience, middle schools, or High Schools new to robotics)

New! NAVIGATOR CLASS (most appropriate for upper elementary schools with robotics experience, middle schools with robotics experience, or High Schools new to robotics)

RANGER CLASS (most appropriate for middle schools with robotics experience, high schools, and community colleges & universities new to robotics)

Registration Details:

Open registration will be announced by E-mail, make sure you are on the Great Lakes Regional E-mail list by contacting sarah.a.waters@noaa.gov

Registration ends April 19, 2014 or when full. The Great Lakes Regional Competition facility can accommodate approximately 32 total teams of all classes.

Coaches may enter up to two teams. If you have a third team, please contact sarah.a.waters@noaa.gov to get on a waiting list. We suggest if you have many teams at your school that you hold an in-school run-off competition and the winner(s) then attend the regional event. The competition is open to the public and friends, family, and supporting schoolmates are welcome to attend as spectators.

When Registration opens, it will be at the www.marinetech.org website. Ranger Class team registration is \$75. There is no registration fee this year for Navigator Class or Scout Class teams.

Where: Alpena High School Gym and the adjacent Plaza Community Pool in Alpena, MI (3303 S Third Ave, Alpena, MI 49707)

General information: the official schedule will be released after the close of registration (after April 19). In general, the day is as follows: sign-in starts around 8:00 am at Alpena High School and the competition begins shortly after sign-in with safety checks and poster set-up, then mission attempts and engineering presentations run throughout the day with an award ceremony around 4:30-5:00 pm.

Registered teams are provided with two slices of pizza & a drink at lunch, a certificate of participation, and a commemorative patch. Various awards are also presented in all classes for total points, as well as special awards for things like “excellence in engineering” to “excellence in safety,” to “best team spirit.”

Teams need not be present at end of day award ceremony to win. In addition to the competition there are opportunities to attend special presentations, meet industry professionals, learn about college programs, and watch movies and work an ROV simulator throughout the day! There will also be vendors with snacks for sale at the event. Supporter (non-registered participants, such as parents and friends) may find lunch at nearby restaurants; many choices are located just a few minutes from the venue.

Rules overview: The MATE Great Lakes Regional ROV Competition uses the rules and scoring system as specified for the MATE International competition, with some adjustments.* The points acquired during the RANGER CLASS competition will be added up and the top THREE RANGER CLASS teams will become eligible to come back and attend the 13th Annual MATE International Competition taking place in Alpena, MI on June 26-28, 2014.

Winners of the SCOUT CLASS and NAVIGATOR CLASS competitions will be recognized for their efforts at the Great Lakes Regional event award ceremony in Alpena. SCOUT and NAVIGATOR CLASS winners do **not** move on to an International Competition.

***RULES FOR GREAT LAKES REGIONAL EVENT that may be slightly different from the MATE Center documents - for all classes:**

- All classes must have at least 3 team members and may have up to 6 team members on the pool deck for the mission – teams may have any number of additional members present for the engineering evaluation or as members of the team, but only 3-6 people on the pool deck for the underwater mission portion of the event.
- A team engineering evaluation PRESENTATION to a panel of judges is REQUIRED for all classes
- A poster is required from all classes
- **New!** FOR RANGER CLASS ONLY:
 - The following must be received by sarah.a.waters@noaa.gov by **May 3, 2014** (two weeks prior to the regional event):
 - Full Written Technical Report (for examples from previous years see: <http://www.marinetech.org/tech-reports/>)
 - Please note the Technical Report must include a SID (System Interconnection Diagram) –and please also note that the SID must be a CAD document and can not be hand drawn – for all specifications see page 65 of the Ranger Class competition manual.
 - Please note that the Technical Report must include a Company Spec Sheet – see page 83 of the Ranger Class Competition Manual

Visiting Alpena:

For information about visiting Alpena, Michigan go to www.alpena.cvb.com or call 1-800-4-ALPENA. Don't forget to visit the exhibits at the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Visitor Center at 500 W. Fletcher Street in Alpena when you come for the competition!

QUESTIONS? Call Sarah Waters at 989.356.8805 x29 or email sarah.a.waters@noaa.gov